Serial No.: 09/177,815

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to improve the form of the specification and claims and for further clarity, to place this application in preferred U.S. format for allowance at this time. A new Abstract, substituted for the original is filed concurrently herewith. In addition, certain changes were made to FIG. 2 as set forth in a separate Letter to the Examiner Requesting Approval of Drawing Changes filed concurrently with this Preliminary Amendment. No new subject matter has been added, therefore the amendments to the specification and claims, and changes to the drawings are requested to be approved at this time.

New claims 11-20 have been added. Support for new claims 11-17 is found, for example, in FIG. 2, and the corresponding disclosure on page 10, lines 12-30, et seq. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that new claims 11-20 be entered.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge same to Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS, & HALSEY

By:___

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3/31/99